

Applicants respectfully disagree. The lengthy specification describes several different embodiments of medical devices for securing a suture to a suture attachment site in a patient. Applicants respectfully submit that the specification has explicit disclosure of several different feedback techniques. For example, the specification clearly describes battery powered devices capable of inserting screw anchors and associated sutures. The battery powered devices have a motor that emits a tone during activation. During rotation of the screw into bone, the associated suture will also rotate. Once the screw is implanted in the bone, the screw is automatically disconnected from the device. See e.g. page 21, lines 15-16, and page 27, line 4. Once the screw is no longer rotating, the associated suture will also fail to rotate. The specification further states, "When the screw 726 has been totally inserted (after approximately 10-20 seconds, as indicated by the change in the inserter's motor tone and cessation of twisting of protruding suture), as shown in the exploded view of Figure 29, the operate button is released and the inserter can be removed from the vagina for reloading." See page 32, last two lines to page 33, first three lines.

The specification explicitly describes battery powered devices with motors that emit tones. The devices are utilized for a variety of surgical procedures, such as procedures for placing a screw in the pubic bone to address incontinence. The specification further discloses that the tone of the motor changes after the screw is totally inserted. This is clearly audible feedback. In other embodiments, once the screw stops rotating, there will be a cessation of twisting of protruding suture. See page 32, last two lines to page 33, first three lines. This is clearly a visual indicator.

As a result, applicants respectfully submit that the claims are fully supported in the originally filed specification. No new matter is present in this application and the requirements of 35 U.S.C. Section 112, first paragraph are fully satisfied.

Examination and reconsideration of the application in light of this response is requested.

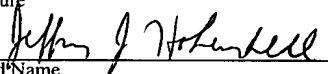
If the Examiner comes to believe that a telephone conversation may be useful in addressing any remaining open issues in this case, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney at 952-930-6135.

With respect to the information disclosure statement mailed on February 20, 2002, applicants note that two of the three applications published as U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,575,998 and 6,575,984.

No fee is believed due for this response. If any additional fee is required for the timely submission of this response, applicants request that such fee be charged to deposit account no. 501921.

Registration Number	Telephone Number
34,109	(952) 930-6135
Date	
June 26, 2003	

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

Printed Name
Jeffrey J. Hohenshell

**Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
AMS Research Corporation  
10700 Bren Road West  
Minnetonka, MN 55343**